

REMARKS

The Office Action dated December 26, 2006 has been reviewed and the application is amended in a manner believed to place same in condition for allowance. Reconsideration of the application is requested.

In summary, non-elected Claims 34-36, 49-53 and 71-73 have been cancelled and Claims 47, 54 and 57 have been amended. Thus, Claims 37-48 and 54-70 are pending.

Claim 47 has been amended to properly depend from independent Claim 37. Thus withdrawal of the objection to Claims 47 and 48 is respectfully requested.

Claims 54 and 57 include minor amendments to place the claims in better form for allowance.

The specification has been amended to update the status of related applications and to address an informality therein.

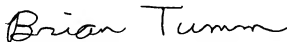
The indication of allowable subject matter in Claims 38-48, 55-63, 65 and 67-70 is noted, with appreciation.

The rejection of Claims 37, 54, 64 and 66 on the ground of non-statutory obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over Claims 2, 3, 17, 22 and 27 of U.S. Patent No. 6 623 445 and Claims 9 and 11 of U.S. Patent No. 6 213 970 has been considered.

Applicants submit the attached Terminal Disclaimer to address the rejection of Claims 37, 54, 64 and 66 under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as set forth above. In view of the Terminal Disclaimer, reconsideration and withdrawal of the obviousness-type double patenting rejection of Claims 37, 54, 64 and 66 is respectfully requested.

In view of the above, the instant application is believed to be in condition for allowance, and action toward that end is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



Brian R. Tumm

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Encl: Request for Recording of Terminal Disclaimer
Terminal Disclaimer
Postal Card

136.07/05